

NASA's WEATHER ACCIDENT PREVENTION PROGRAM

A Look Back, and a Look Ahead - An Airline Perspective



Brian Haynes
Manager

Flight Operations Technical – United Airlines



Where Were We - “Back Then”?



- “Datalink” meant ACARS...
 - ▶ Text – and S L O W
 - ▶ Approaching saturation
- XM and SIRIUS were riding high
 - ▶ Expected high revenue from audio channels
 - ▶ Not interested in ‘wasting’ bandwidth on data
- No in-flight weather graphics
 - ▶ Color *PRE-FLIGHT* WX graphics were a big innovation at most stations
 - ▶ Turbulence injuries were serious issue

Where Were We - “Back Then”?



■ Pre- 9/11

- ▶ Airline ‘boom’ was still in full swing
- ▶ NAS capacity was our biggest problem
- ▶ LCC’s were adding to capacity pressures, but were still mostly viewed as “upstarts”
- ▶ Business cases were mainly based on capacity, delay reduction, and growth potential
- ▶ Information support hadn’t really changed in 20 years
- ▶ Security was not a central issue to safety

How Did Things Change?



- “Dot-Com” Meltdown
- Enron, Worldcom Collapse
- Economic Slowdown
- 9/11 Terrorist Attacks
- First NAS Shutdown in History
- Richard Reid Attempts Inflight Bombing
- Mombasa and Baghdad Missile Attacks
- Terrorism and Security Become Part of the Fabric of American Life – and Air Travel

How *ELSE* Did Things Change?



■ Massive Airline Bankruptcies

- ▶ Midway
- ▶ USAir
- ▶ Sun Country
- ▶ United
- ▶ USAirways
- ▶ ATA
- ▶ Delta
- ▶ Northwest
- ▶ ...and counting...

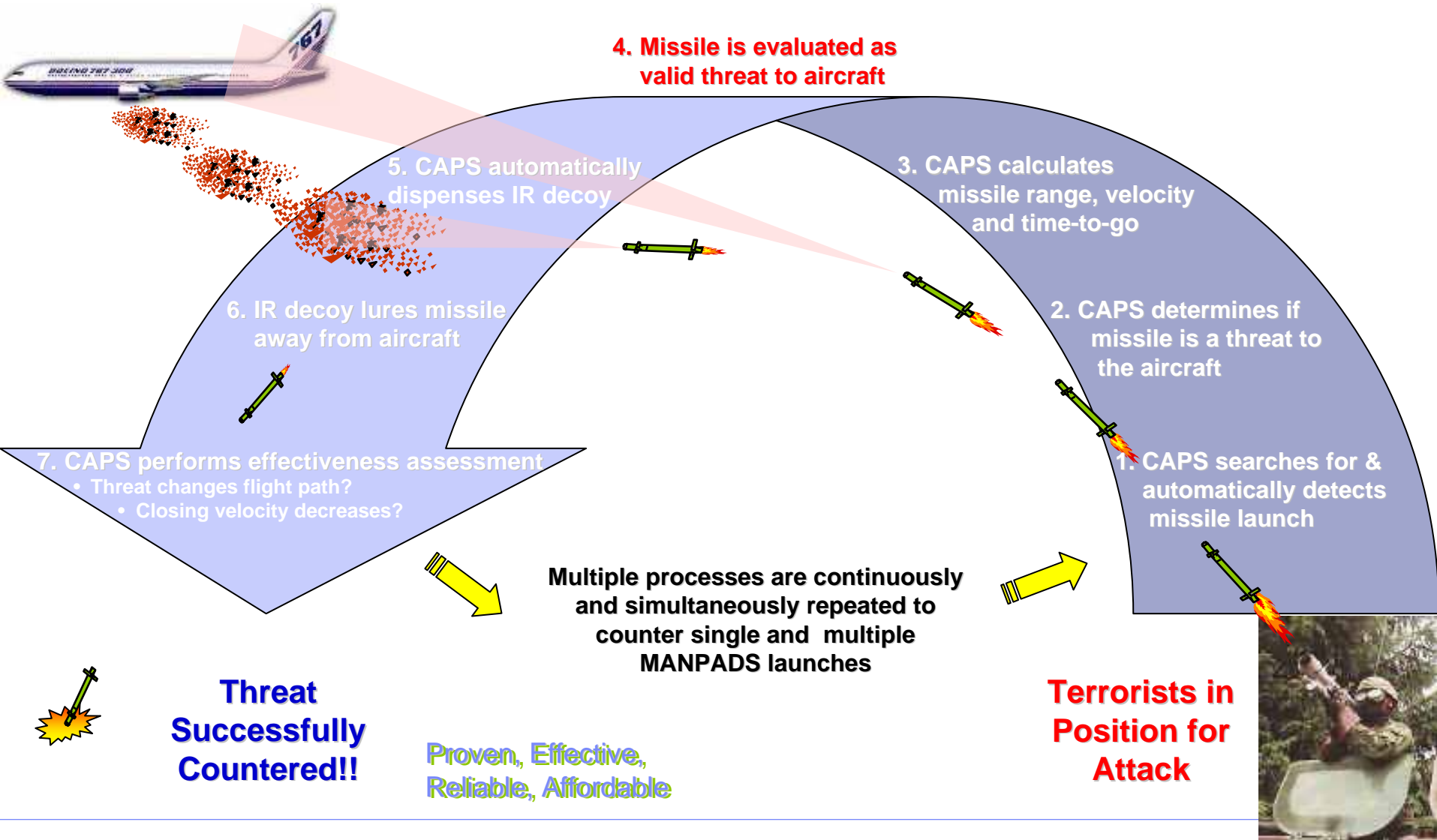
How *ELSE* Did Things Change?



- The advent of –
 - ▶ TFR's
 - ▶ AvSP Becomes Safety and Security Program
 - ▶ Major Airport Security Increases
 - ▶ Massive Increase in Federal Air Marshalls
 - ▶ Federal Flight Deck Officer (FFDO) Program
 - ▶ Formation of Department of Homeland Security
 - ▶ Airline transition to a financially-driven business climate
 - ▶ Rapid Rise of LCC's to Industry-leading Role

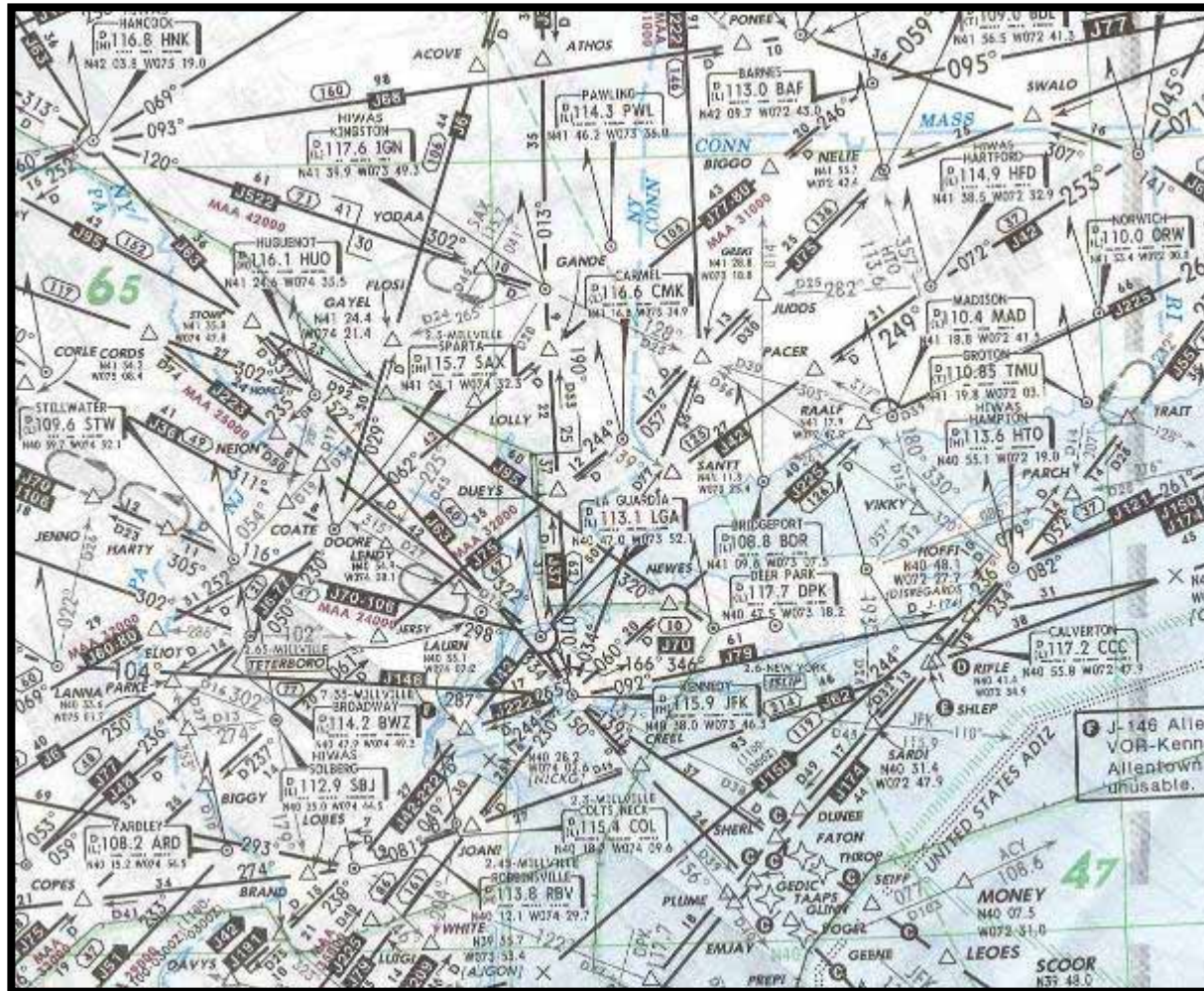


UAL Counter-MANPADS Process



Airspace Navigation Data Growth

FMS will not support 7% annual increase



2003

Did Anything **GOOD** Happen?



- Flight Deck Graphical Information - a Reality
 - ▶ Graphical Weather
 - Content, delivery, displays, human factors development
 - Practical Demonstrations – AWIN, WINN
 - Launch of FISDL and other commercial weather datalink services
 - Standards – RTCA SC195, AC 120-76/A
 - ▶ AHAS: Information instead of Data
 - ▶ Synthetic Vision
 - ▶ Surface Moving Map

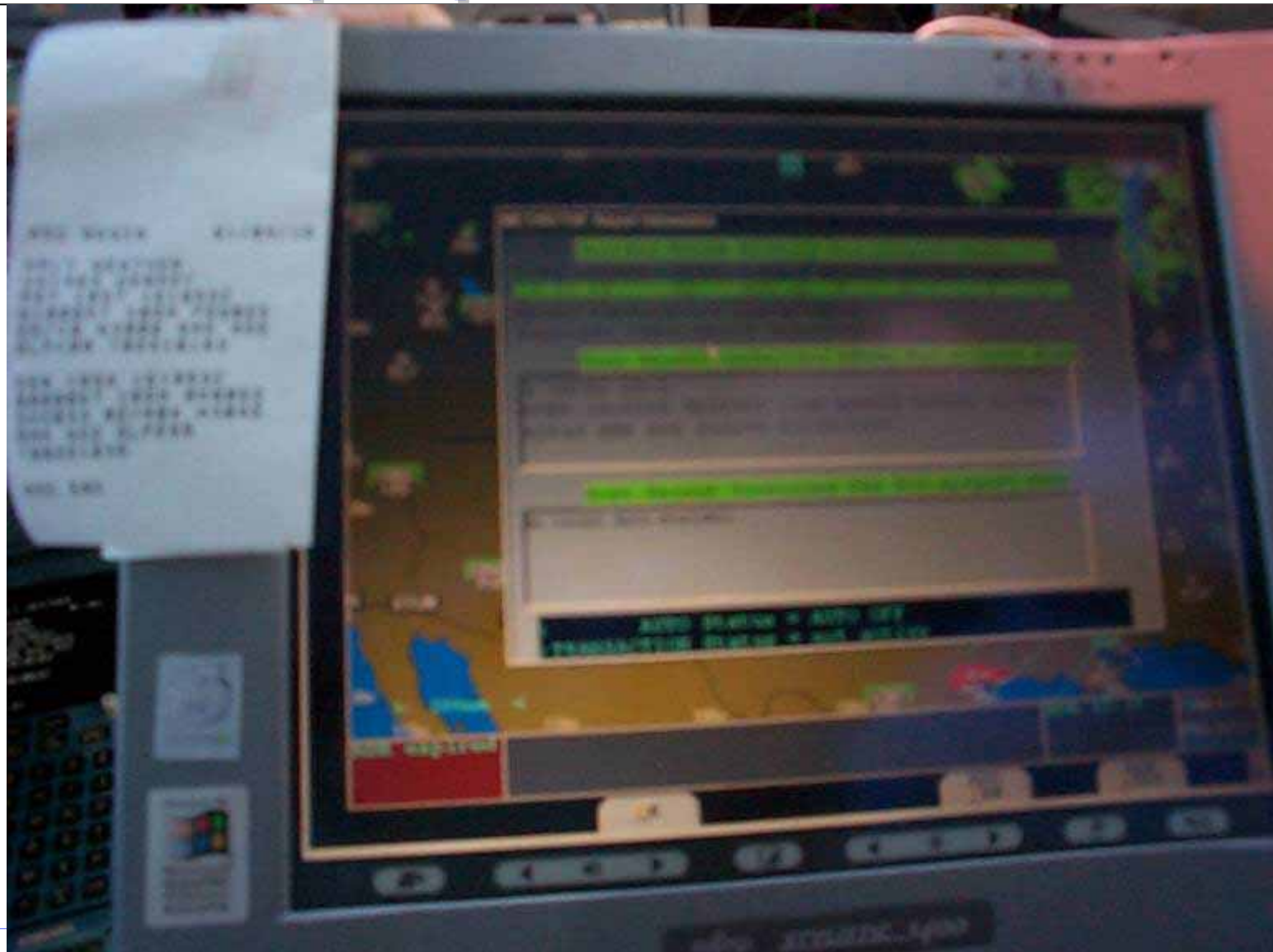


NASA AWIN –

United Airbus A320 with
Honeywell WINN Graphical
Datalink

Oklahoma Thunderstorm
Inside and Outside View





Surface Moving Map



Captain Joe
Burns
Conducts
First Actual
Taxi
Evaluation
of
United/FAA
SMM at
DEN

Any Other Good News?



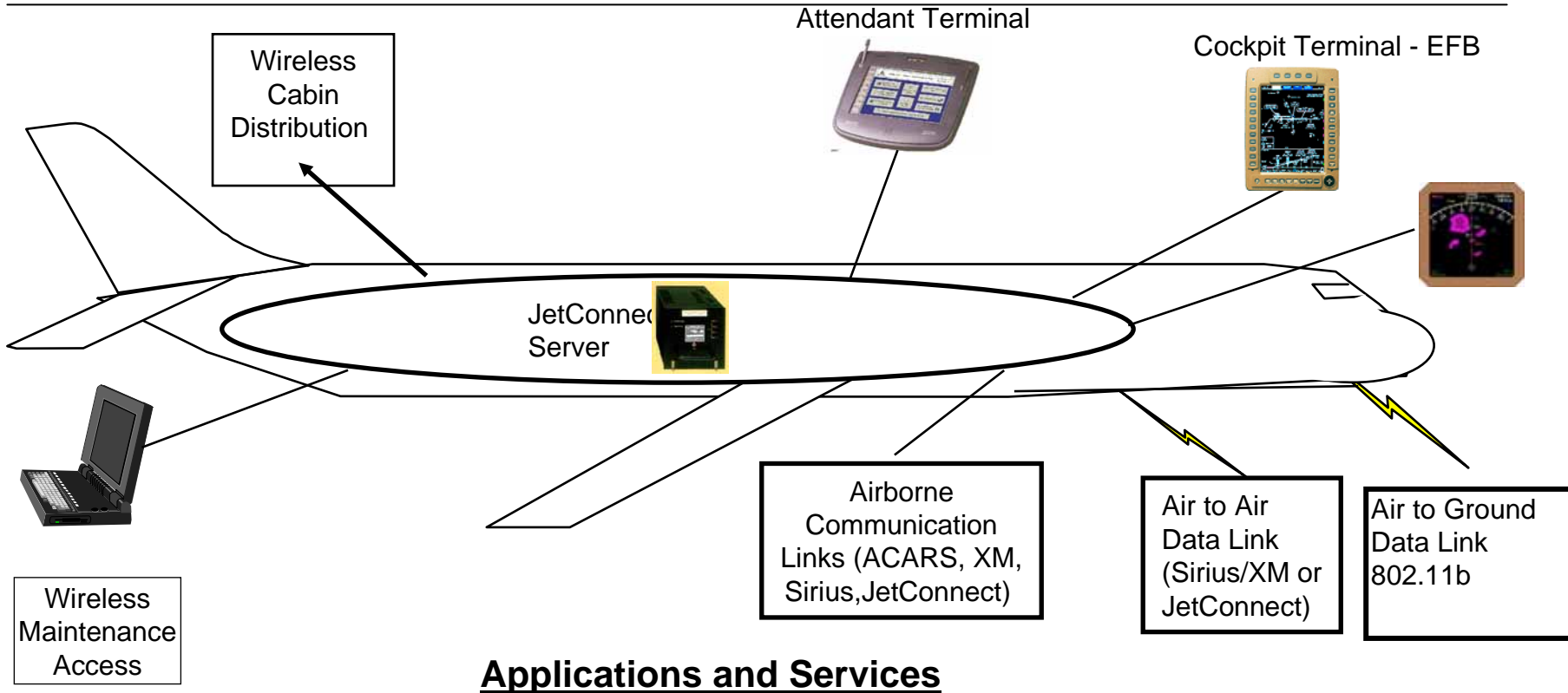
- Widespread Automet Deployment
- Turbulence Mitigation
 - ▶ Enhanced Radar Turbulence Detection
 - ▶ Turbulence Measurement / Notification
 - ▶ Cabin Experiments – Turbulence Response
 - ▶ Wake Turbulence Research
- TAMDAR
 - ▶ Low-cost, Tropospheric Observations
 - ▶ Potential for Order-of-Magnitude Increase Over Automet Data

Any Other Good News?



- **NASA WINCOMM Initiative Brings Holistic Approach to “Datalink” Planning**
- **NASA and United RF Interference Research**
 - ▶ Helps define FCC UWB Spectral Mask
 - ▶ Provides basis for onboard WiFi certification
 - ▶ Provides basis for enhanced FAMS communication
 - ▶ Provides basis for cell phone use of taxi-in
- **XM/SIRIUS Reorganize, Embrace WX Delivery Business Case**
- **United Launches “AIRNET” Onboard Information Initiative**

Communications: Using Wireless in aircraft



Applications and Services



Flight Operations

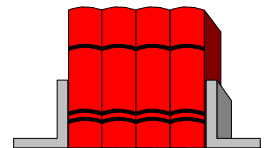
- Weather
- Electronic Manuals/Charts
- Cabin Surveillance
- Surface Moving Maps
- Flight Papers/Data

Onboard/Passenger

- Rebooking/IRROPS
- Customer Profiles
- Buy On Board
- Live Audio
- Email/WAP Browsing

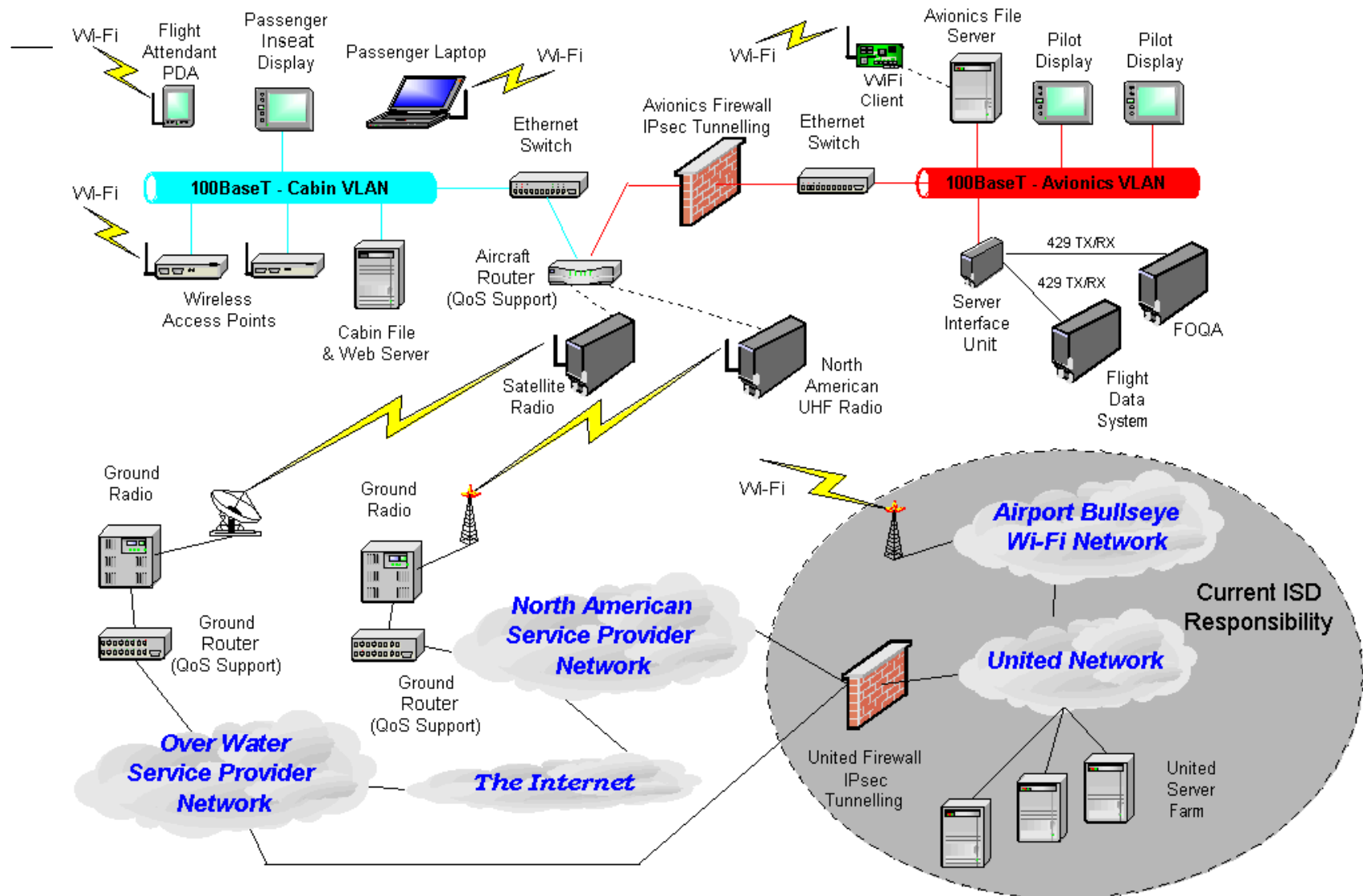
Maintenance

- *FIX
- Flight Data Downloads
- Electronic Logbook
- Maintenance Data Collection
- Electronic MEL





Air_Net Architecture



Where Do We Go From Here?



■ Turbulence Mitigation

- ▶ Interoperable metrics and methodology
- ▶ Leverage in-place AUTOMET Platforms as much as possible
- ▶ Low-cost AUTOMET RH Upgrade
- ▶ Cabin Mitigation Options Development
- ▶ Define and substantiate practical wake turbulence separation standards/practices
- ▶ Development of wake vortex “zone of influence” graphics and delivery / display
- ▶ Rigorous analysis of forward-looking LASER business case

Where Do We Go From Here?



▪Flight Deck Information Systems

- ▶ Business Case Research – build on previous Scanlon Study

▪TAMDAR

- ▶ Standards Development, Widespread Deployment / Data Integration

▪Communications

- ▶ Replace “built-to-purpose link” mentality with RCP
- ▶ Develop “commercial aggregation” tools
 - Aggregate bandwidth to meet RCP
 - Aggregate “9’s” to meet RCP
 - Develop “pedigree overlay” for AOC, ATC functional RCP

COMMUNICATIONS:

What is the next domestic US Datalink for:



Aviation Weather
New AOC Path
Aircraft Data Updates
Security

Governmental Links:

- 8.33 domestic
- VDL/2
- VDL/3
- VDL/4
- CPDLC
- FANS/1A – FANS2
- Mode-S
- ADS-B – UAT/1090

Commercial links:

- Connexion
- Swift 64
- Iridium
- Orbcomm
- XM/Sirius
- Verizon Airfone
- Air Cell
- Aero 3G

Communications: ADLS/IP-Based Airborne Internet! (Required service level performance of all CNS)



Governmental Links:

- ~~8.33 domestic~~
- ~~VDL/2~~
- ~~VDL/3~~
- ~~VDL/4~~
- ~~CPDLC~~
- FANS/1A – ~~FANS2~~
- ~~Mode-S~~
- ~~ADS-B UAT/1090~~
- 25kHz VHF

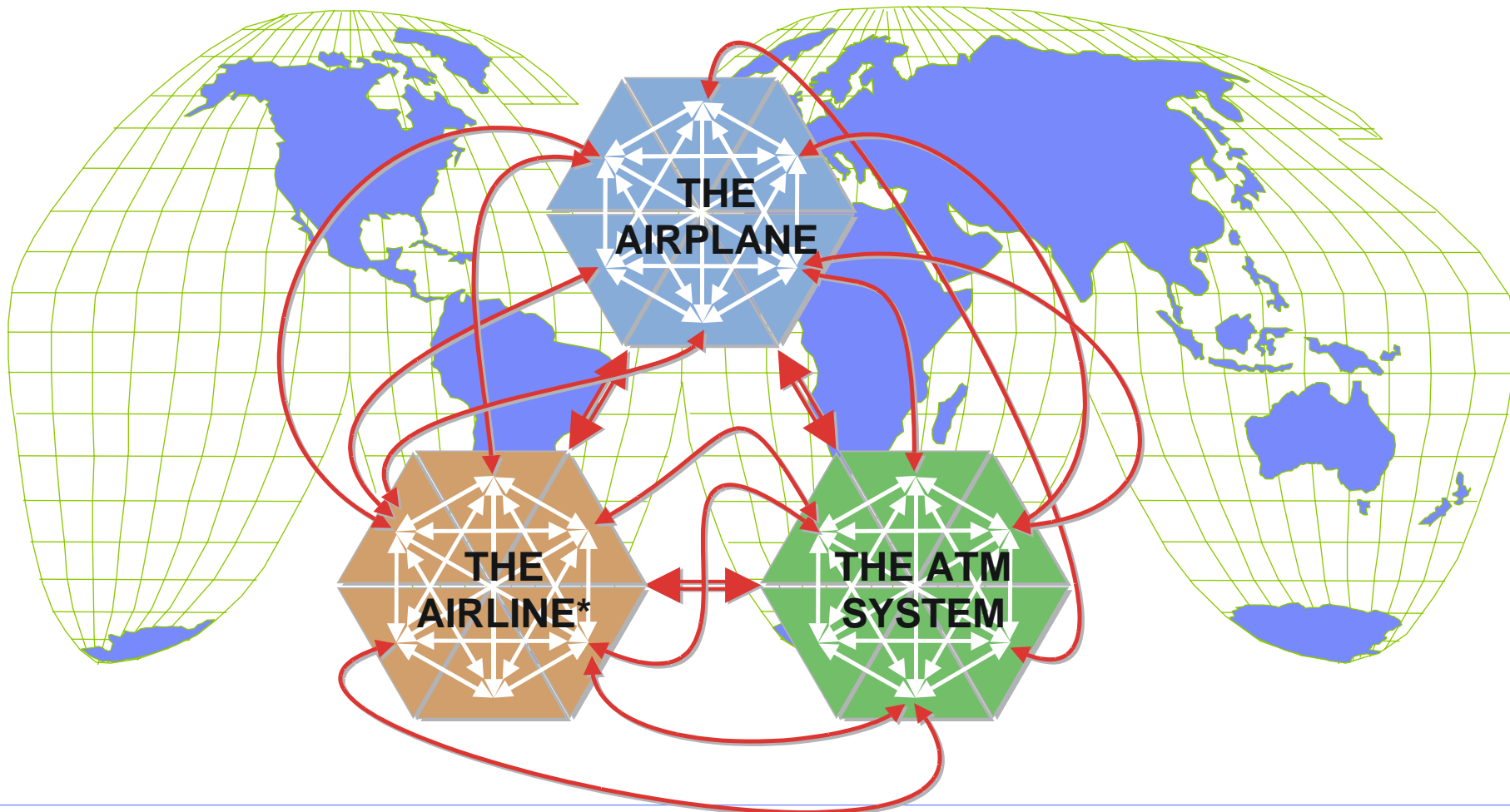
Commercial links:

Connexion
Swift 64
Iridium
Orbcomm
XM/Sirius
Verizon Airfone
Air Cell
Aero 3G
Future COTS

Communication for Truly Collaborative Decision Making



Each Constituent has Comparable Information – Accessed Via Multiple Paths Aggregated to Meet Mission Needs, Rather Than Link-to-Mission Design



Closing Thoughts



▪ **Safety Enhancements Must Pass Business Case Analysis To Be Widely Deployed**

- ▶ Revenue or Operational Efficiency gains from safety systems will greatly speed adoption
- ▶ Development of business case research data will lead to earlier, wider adoption

▪ **Security Still Matters**

- ▶ Safety and Security are now nearly inseparable
- ▶ Weather systems with security re-use will be deployed more widely and quickly

Thank You!



Brian Haynes
Manager – Flight Operations Technical
United Airlines – Denver Training Center
7401 E. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Denver, Co 80207 USA
(303) 780- 5561

Brian.Haynes@united.com